UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-V-

JOSEPH MERLINO,

Defendant.

No. 1:16-cr-00522-RJS-2 ORDER

RICHARD J. SULLIVAN, Circuit Judge:

The Court is in receipt of a letter from the government, dated November 20, 2021 (Doc.

No. 1833), in which it acknowledges that the State Department has (a) not returned Defendant's

passport and (b) not responded to multiple calls and emails from the United States Attorney's

Office concerning whether and when such a return will be effectuated. Accordingly, IT IS

HEREBY ORDERED THAT, on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., the government

and a representative of the State Department shall appear before the Court in Courtroom 21C of

the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York,

at which time the State Department representative shall be prepared to explain the Department's

failure to return Defendant's passport and show cause why the representative and/or the

Department should not be held in contempt of court.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: November 20, 2021

New York, New York

RICHARD J. SULLIVAN

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE

Sitting by Designation